



COMMISSION ON AGING

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING

Minutes
August 17, 2015

PRESIDING: Peter Brunner, Chair

Members Attending

Angela Boyter
Roxanne Farrar
Deborah Fleischmann
Susan Hailman
Bob McLaughlin
Andrew Monjan
Eletta Morse
Carolyn Rimes
Sang K. Shin
Sharonlee Vogel

Not Present

Barbara Catlin
Jan Horan
Julia Mattis
Laureen Wylie

Office on Aging

Starr Sowers

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Approve Agenda

Sharonlee Vogel moved to accept the agenda and Bob McLaughlin seconded the motion. Motion was approved. *All in favor. Agenda accepted.*

Approve Minutes

Sharonlee Vogel moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting and Debbie Fleischmann seconded the motion. Motion was approved. *All in favor. Minutes accepted.*

Office on Aging Report

Starr Sowers let the Commission know that the Master Plan is currently at the printers. Copies will be mailed to the COA soon.

The Commission is invited to the ribbon cutting for the 50+ Fitness Center and renovated Ellicott City 50+ Center. The ceremony will take place on Thursday, September 17.

The Office has been given permission to move forward with filling the vacant assistant director position at the North Laurel Senior Center Plus site. Filling this vacancy will allow the plus program to accept more participants and will ease the burden on current staffing.

In keeping with the master plan goal of increasing the scope of the caregiver education program, the Office has purchased materials to offer the Powerful Tools for Caregiving program. This is an evidence-based caregiver education program.

Governmental Affairs Committee Report

Bob McLaughlin provided a summary of the Committee's conference call with Odile Brunetto (attached) from the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Bob outlined the major findings: it took a great deal of time to phase in the changes and a greater amount of time for staff to feel settled following the change, major cost savings were the result of reductions in force, and that public private partnerships are emphasized.

Pete Brunner and Bob will work to follow up with NACO regarding other counties with a similar structure. Dr. Brunetto suggested examining the structure of Arlington County, Virginia which has a structure similar to the one found in Montgomery County.

The Committee will also begin drafting an interim report to the County Executive to provide the research which has already been collected.

Nominating Committee

The nominating committee shared their nominations for chair and vice chair. Sharonlee Vogel was nominated as chair and Carolyn Rimes as vice chair. The floor was opened to additional nominations, of which there were none. Angie Boyter motioned to accept Sharonlee Vogel as chair and Carolyn Rimes as vice chair. Eletta Morse seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

50+EXPO

Pete Brunner began by asking for additional volunteers to work on the EXPO booth. In addition to Jan Horan and Andrew Monjan, Pete Brunner and Susan Hailman agreed to work on the EXPO concept, although all of those working on the booth concept cannot be present the day of the event.

The Commission discussed the topic of their booth at the 50+EXPO. All agreed it needs an attention-getting display. Starr Sowers suggested polling attendees on possible educational sessions the Commission could offer.

Possible handouts were discussed, including a shorter version of Eletta Morse's information on housing options, Barbara Catlin's write up of the White House Conference on Aging, as well as information on advanced directives.

Andrew Monjan agreed to convene the group working on the EXPO and bring suggestions to the September meeting. Also at the September meeting a schedule for the booth will be established.

Old Business

MDCOA training-Angie Boyter and Susan Hailman will represent the Howard County Commission at this event.

New Business

None

Adjournment

Sharonlee Vogel motioned to adjourn. Susan Hailman seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Recording Secretary: Jennifer Rittenhouse

Next Meeting: September 21, 2015, Ellicott City Senior Center Annex, 7pm